

C O N F I D E N T I A L11th February, 1960.COCOM Document No. 3876BCOORDINATING COMMITTEEMEMORANDUM BY THE FRENCH DELEGATIONMAGNESIUM OXIDE

The French Delegation would remind the Committee that Item 13 on the Atomic Energy List embargoes "materials suitable for use in refractories, composed of 97% or more by weight..... of magnesium oxide ".

The French Delegation note that:

- (a) Upon study, it has been found that the quantities used for purely civilian purposes account for 99% of total usage.
- (b) The raw material (giobertite), which is abundant in the Eastern Bloc, is free from all strategic control.
- (c) The U.S.S.R. is among the biggest world producers of electro-melted magnesia containing more than 97% magnesium oxide.

The French Delegation therefore believe that electro-melted magnesia should be deleted from the International Lists, and would be glad if the other delegations would give views within the shortest possible time.

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